

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 LAGOS 08028 200930Z

21

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /085 W
----- 128348

R 191552Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 767

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

USMISSION USUN NY

AMCONSUL IBADAN

AMCONSUL KADUNA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 8028

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINR, NI

SUBJECT: FMG RETIRES NIGERIAN AMBASSADOR TO US AND EIGHT OTHERS

REF: LAGOS 7621 (NOTAL)

1. NEW TEAM AT MINISTRY EXTERNAL

AFFAIRS (MEA) HEADED BY

COMMISSIONER, COL. JOE GARBA, AND NEW PERMSEC SANUSI (REFTEL)

APPARENTLY INTENDS FAIRLY THOROUGH SHAKEUP OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

PERSONNEL. PRESS THIS MORNING REPORTS THAT NINE SENIOR NIGERIAN

AMBASSADORS HAVE BEEN RETIRED QTE WITH IMMEDIATE EFFECT UNQTE.

MEA OFFICIALS CONFIRMED RETIREMENT TO EMBOFFS AND ALLOWED THERE

EXTENSIVE PERSONNEL SHUFFLE IN CARDS. LIST INCLUDES NIGERIAN

AMBASSADOR TO U.S. (JOHN GARBA) AND FORMER MEA PERMSEC JOE

IYALLA. OTHERS RETIRED ARE AMBASSADORS TO UN (EDWIN OGBU),

LONDON (ALHAJI SULE KOLO), ROME (ADEDOKUN HAASTRUP), JIDDA

(ALHAJI SANI KOTANGORA), ANKARA (BRIGADIER GEORGE KURUBO),

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 LAGOS 08028 200930Z

AND EQUATORIAL GUINEA (BRIGADIER W. U. BASSEY) AS WELL AS

FORMER AMBASSADOR TO SAUDI ARABIA, ALHAJI BELLO MALABU.

2. WHILE IT TO BE EXPECTED THAT CAREER OFFICERS SENIOR TO SANUSI (HE IS GRADE II CAREER OFFICER WHILE CAREER RETIREES ARE GRADE I) WOULD BE RETRIED OR REASSIGNED OUT OF MEA IN ORDER SATISFY RANK CONSCIOUS BUREAUCRACY, OTHER REASONS MAY ENTER PICTURE. FOR EXAMPLE, NIGERIAN AMBASSADOR IN EQUATORIAL GUINEA MAY HAVE BEEN RELIVED FOR REASONS CONNECTED WITH HIS PERFORMANCE VIS A VIS RENEWED FLAREUP OVER TREATMENT NIGERIAN WORKERS FERNANDO PO (REPORTED SEPTTEL). AND, DIRECTOR AMERICAS DEPARTMENT MEA, NOTING THAT MOST OF RETIRED AMBASSADORS WERE NEARING END THEIR TOURS ANYWAY, POINTEDLY TOLD CHARGE THAT GARBA'S POSTING AS AMBASSADOR TO U. S. WAS "POLITICAL APPOINTMENT" OF FORMER GOWON ADMINISTRATION.

COMMENT: RETIREMENTS MAKE SEVERAL IMPORTANT AND CHOICE POSTINGS AVAILABLE IN WHICH NEW LEADERSHIP CAN PUT TRUSTED REPRESENTATIVES. WHILE IT LIKELY MOST NEW APPOINTEES WILL COME FROM CAREER RANKS, TODAY'S RETIREMENTS COUPLED WITH THE EXPECTED SPATE OF TRANSFERS HIGH LEVEL MEA PERSONNEL OFFER FMG OPPORTUNITY PLACE A FEW OF THE GROWING NUMBER UNEMPLOYED MILITARY (AND CIVILIAN) OFFICIALS OF GOWON REGIME IN PRESTIGIOUS JOBS OUTSIDE NIGERIA'S BORDERS IF IT WISHES.

4. IT IS INTERESTUNG THAT THREE OF NIGERIA'S MOST IMPORTANT EMBASSIES (LONDON, UNITED NATIONS AND WASHINGTON) WILL BE HEADED BY NEW MEN. IT MAY WELL BE THAT FMG AND COMMISSIONER GARBA, IN ADDITION IMPROVING RELATIONSHIPS WITH RESIDENT DIPLOMATIC CORPS IN LAGOS (LAGOS 7641 NOTAL) WANT TO ESTABLISH NEW RELATIONSHIPS AND IMAGE FOR NIGERIA IN THESE INFLUENTIAL POSTS.

5. NO RPT NO INDICATION YET WHO MIGHT GET WASHINGTON SLOT; MEA OFFICERS FOR MOMENT CLAIMING IGNORANCE -- PERHAPS, TRUTHFULLY.
CROSBY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY GOVERNMENT, PERSONNEL SEPARATIONS, AMBASSADORS, PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975LAGOS08028
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750287-0916
From: LAGOS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750840/aaaabjay.tel
Line Count: 97
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 LAGOS 7621
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06 JUN 2003 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <09 JUN 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FMG RETIRES NIGERIAN AMBASSADOR TO US AND EIGHT OTHERS
TAGS: PFOR, PINR, NI, (GARBA, JOE)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006